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REMARKS

In response to the Final Office Action of 10/31/2005, the applicants have filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE).

The specification has been reviewed, and clerical errors have been corrected.

On page 2 of the Final Action, claim 11 was objected to because of the informalities. In view of the objection, claim 11 has been amended to correct the informalities.

On page 2 of the Final Action, claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9-14 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by *Pickles et al.* (US 6,390,857).

On page 4 of the Final Action, claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being patentable over *Pickles et al.* (US 6,390,857) in view of *Lemke et al.* (US 6,692,272).

In view of the rejections, claim 1 has been amended to clarify the features of the invention. Claims 2-7, 9-13, and 19-20 have been amended to correct clerical errors and dependency.

The applicants respectfully traverse the rejections and request reconsideration. With the amendments, claims 1-28 are not anticipated by the cited references for the reason explained below.

In the Office Action of 03/04/2005, the examiner requested the applicants to elect a single species. On page 2 of the restriction requirement, the examiner stated that currently claim 1 is generic. With the amendments, the applicants believe that

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claim 1 is in the condition for allowance. Therefore, non-elected claims 8, 15-19, and 21-28 should be rejoined to the examination and allowed.

As recited in amended claim 1, a transmission board of the invention comprises a first surface board having at least one first transmission circuit on a first surface thereof and first connection pads on a second surface thereof opposite to the first surface; a second surface board having at least one second transmission circuit on a third surface thereof and second connection pads on a fourth surface thereof opposite to the third surface; and a frame body for supporting the first and second surface boards so that the first transmission circuit is apart from the second transmission circuit by a specific distance according to a specific characteristic impedance when the first transmission circuit and the second transmission circuit are operated in a differential operation.

In the invention recited in amended claim 1, the first surface board has a first edge portion along which the first connection pads are arranged. The second surface board has a second edge portion along which the second connection pads are arranged. The frame body has one plugging edge attached to the first and second edge portions for covering the first and second edge portions.

In particular, the frame body has the one plugging edge attached to the first and second edge portions of the first and second surface boards, so that the plugging edge covers the first and second edge portions.

Pickles et al. have disclosed an electrical connector. As shown in Fig. 2 in *Pickles et al.*, an electrical connector 1

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includes a front half 2, a back half 3, and a plurality of circuit boards 4 assembled in the combination of the front half 2 and the back half 3. Further, a plurality of grounding terminals 5 are positioned in the back half 3, and downwardly extend from the back half 3. (col. 2, lines 12-22)

The front half 2 defines a front surface 23, an upper surface 20 and a lower surface 21. A top tongue 7 and a bottom tongue 8 forwardly extend from the upper surface 20 and the lower surface 21, respectively. A plurality of leading caps 10 are formed between the top tongue 7 and the bottom tongue 8. In the front half 2, there is a plurality of passageways 36. (col. 2, lines 23-32)

Each circuit board 4 is mounted in the passageway 36 of the front half 2 and the groove 30 of the back half 3, and further extends beyond the front surface 23 of the front half 2 and is ended by the leading cap 10. (col. 2, lines 36-39)

FIG. 4 in *Pickles et al.* shows the protective function of the leading cap 10 when the electrical connector 1 mates with a complementary connector 11. When mating, the top tongue 7 and the bottom tongue 8 are inserted into the slots 33 of the complementary connector 11, the grounding contacts 12 and the signal contacts 30 engage with corresponding golden fingers of the circuit boards 4. In the process of engagement, the engaging sections 15, 35 of the grounding contacts 12 and the signal contacts 30 slide over the inclined faces 13 to engage with corresponding golden fingers of the circuit board 4. (col. 3, lines 1-16)

As shown in Fig. 4 in *Pickles et al.*, one single leading cap 10 is attached to one edge portion of the single circuit board 4. The circuit board 4 is inserted into between one of the signal

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contacts 30 and one of the ground contact 12 from the leading cap 10. The complementary connector 11 includes a plurality of the signal contacts 30 and ground contacts 12. Accordingly, when the electrical connector 1 mates with the complementary connector 11, a plurality of the circuit boards 4 can be connected to a plurality of the signal contacts 30 and ground contacts 12.

In *Pickles et al.*, one single leading cap 10 is attached to one edge portion of the single circuit board 4. On the other hand, in the invention, the one plugging edge is attached to the first and second edge portions of the first and second surface boards. Accordingly, the plugging edge covers both of the first and second edge portions together, while the first surface board is away from the second surface board by a specific distance.

In *Pickles et al.*, there is no disclosure or suggestion regarding the one plugging edge attached to the first and second edge portions of the first and second surface boards, so that the plugging edge covers the first and second edge portions. Therefore, *Pickles et al.* does not anticipate the invention recited in claim 1.

Lemeke et al. have disclosed a high speed electrical connector. According to *Lemeke et al.*, the desired differential impedance Z depends on the system impedance, and may be 100 ohms or some other value. (col. 6, lines 45-47)

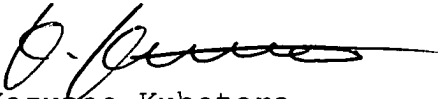
However, *Lemeke et al.* do not disclose all of the features of the invention recited in claim 1. Therefore, *Lemeke et al.* do not anticipate the invention.

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As explained above, *Pickles et al.* and *Lemeke et al.* do not disclose or suggest all of the features of the invention recited in claim 1. Therefore, the invention is not anticipated by *Pickles et al.* and *Lemeke et al.* Even though the cited references are combined, the invention is not obvious.

Reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Kubotera', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kazuhao Kubotera

Reg. No. 51,194

TAKEUCHI & KUBOTERA, LLP

200 Daingerfield Rd.

Suite 202

Alexandria, VA 22314

Tel. (703) 684-9777